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From: "Kuenster, Gail"
Sent: Thur 6/23/2011 5:31:37 PM
Subject: BDCP 404(b)(1) - wetlands and water of the U.S. assessment

Mike,

Last summer we met you, Mike Finan, and Paul Jones in regards to the wetland determination and functional assessment for the 404 (b)(1) Alternatives Analysis for BDCP. Because of the lack of access to much of the area, we discussed a modified approach based mostly on GIS analysis, acknowledging that DWR would conduct a complete wetland determination and functional assessment for the chosen alternative and permit application.

At our last meeting on September 7, 2010, it was recommended that we use the CRAM methodology for the functional assessment. Jean Witzman and I began talks with the California Wetland Monitoring Workgroup and asked for their help to develop a modified CRAM assessment to be used for developing the Alternatives Analysis.

Although work on the 404 (b)(1) was delayed over the winter, we are now working with SFEI to develop the methodology for the functional assessment. They have developed a pretty extensive scope of work to assess each of the conveyance options based on the framework of the California Wetland and Riparian Area Monitoring Program. The Level 2 landscape profile will use the cumulative frequency distributions of CRAM scores based on a probabilistic survey of each type of wetland and riparian area.

We would like to discuss this proposed approach with the Corps and EPA as soon as possible. We need acceptance of our methodology before our management will approve a budget of this size and allow us to move forward with the Interagency agreement with the Aquatic Science Center/SFEI.

Please let me know when you are available and I would be happy to set up a meeting.

Gail

Gail Kuenster

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